

STANDARD CRIMINAL 20

WITNESS (PRIOR CONVICTION)

You have heard evidence that a witness has previously been convicted of a criminal offense. You may consider this evidence only as it may affect the witness' believability.

SOURCE: RAJI (Criminal) No. 20 (1996); ARIZ. R. EVID. 609.

USE NOTE: The Court should consider whether the specific reference to the nature of the prior offense(s) of a witness should be sanitized to prevent prejudice. See *State v. Montano*, 204 Ariz. 413, 426, 65 P.3d 61, 74 (2003) (case involving witness' prior conviction).